Safety of senior citizens

2828. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there were incidents one after the other in the past year, of elderly people getting murdered by criminals through organised burglraies; and

(b) if so, what measures were taken to ensure safety of senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) "Police" and "Law and Order" are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs have issued guidelines to the State Governments from time to time to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of the criminal justice system, more particularly to ensure prevention of crime against vulnerable sections of society including senior citizens.

Government of India have formulated a 'National Policy on Older Persons' which, *inter alia*, provides for keeping a friendly vigil on the senior citizens living alone and promote mechanism of interaction with neighbourhood associations, information and advice to them on the importance of keeping contacts on phone with relatives, friends and neighbours, precautions to be taken on matters, such as, prevention of unauthorized entry. Hiring of domestic help, visit of repair and maintenance workers, vendors and others and handling of cash and valuables.

The State Governments have been advised to take action accordingly to ensure safety of the senior citizens.

Illegal immigration of bangladeshis

2829. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Assam has submitted an eight-point